

Appl. No. 09/976,928
Amdt. Dated Jan. 19, 2005
Reply to Office Action Mailed October 19, 2004

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

An expense management method for controlling a budget of each department in an organization is provided in an operational environment which includes a plurality of terminal units electrically connected to a host via an electronic communications network. Firstly, a user stores a total budget of a department in the host. Secondly, a user sends a purchase requisition of the department from a terminal unit of that department to the host via the network. Thirdly, the host calculates a budget balance of the department according to the total budget and a history of expenses of the department that is stored in the host. Finally, the host determines if a total cost of the purchase requisition exceeds the budget balance of the department. If the total cost is within the budget balance, the host sends a purchase order to an appointed supplier. Otherwise, the host sends an alarm to the user to enable the user to revise and re-submit the purchase requisition.